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The appendixes, covering some ninety pages, include brief biographies of the important persons connected with the colony, such as Papegoja, Printz, Ridder, Rising among the colonial officials, Oxenstierna, Brahe, Fleming and Spring among the Swedish statesmen; a list of the officers, soldiers, sailors, servants and settlers in the colony; documents and translation of documents, being largely instructions to the colonial officials, and a list of the preparations of the various expeditions to New Sweden. The work contains numerous illustrations, reproductions of MSS., pictures of the principal actors, and cuts of the houses, utensils, etc., of the settlers. There are six excellent maps, two of which, drawn by Dr. Johnson, are valuable as showing the territory and settlements of the Swedes.

The bibliography is exceptionally good, serving as a guide to the material, manuscript, printed collections of sources, and secondary works. The index is complete and the make-up of the book is splendid.

The work is a distinct contribution to our knowledge, and Dr. Johnson is to be congratulated on the excellence of his work.

W. T. Root.

University of Wisconsin.

King, F. H. *Farmers of Forty Centuries.* Pp. ix, 441. Price, \$2.50. Madison, Wis.: Mrs. F. H. King, 1911.

The appreciators of things economic are but few, and those who appreciate and know agriculture are yet fewer. It is, therefore, a matter of congratulation that a scientific agriculturist has at last gone to the Orient and come back to tell and explain what he saw of Oriental agriculture along the Pacific littoral in a five-months' trip. Professor King has left us a valuable book and it is to be regretted that he did not have time to extend his studies to the interior parts of the Mongolian lands.

In the preface Liberty H. Bailey says: "For the most part, authorship of agricultural travel is yet undeveloped. The spirit of scientific inquiry must now be taken into this field, and all earth-conquest must be compared and the results be given to the people that work. Such is Professor King's book.

"It is the writing of a well-trained observer who went forth not to find diversion or to depict scenery and common wonders, but to study the actual conditions of life of agricultural peoples. We in North America are wont to think that we may instruct all the world in agriculture, because our agricultural wealth is great and our exports to less favored peoples have been heavy; but this wealth is great because our soil is fertile and new, and in large acreage for every person. We have really only begun to farm well. The first condition of farming is to maintain fertility. This condition the Oriental peoples have met, and they have solved it in their way. We may never adopt particular methods, but we can profit vastly by their experience. With the increase of personal wants in recent time, the newer countries may never reach such density of population as have Japan and China; but we must nevertheless learn the first lesson in the conservation of natural resources, which are the resources of the land. This is the message that Professor King brought home from the East."

One of the most conspicuous things about the agriculture of the United States is the widespread fact that the industry is not adjusted to the resources of the locality in which it is prosecuted. Here is a contrast pointed out by Professor King.

"To anyone who studies the agricultural methods of the Far East in the field it is evident that these people, centuries ago, came to appreciate the value of water in crop production as no other nations have. They have adapted conditions to crops and crops to conditions until with rice they have a cereal which permits the most intense fertilization and at the same time the ensuring of maximum yields against both drought and flood. With the practice of western nations in all humid climates, no matter how completely and highly we fertilize, in more years than not yields are reduced by a deficiency or an excess of water.

"It is difficult to convey, by word or map, an adequate conception of the magnitude of the systems of canalization which contribute primarily to rice culture. A conservative estimate would place the miles of canals in China at fully 200,000, and there are probably more miles of canal in China, Korea and Japan than there are miles of railroad in the United States. China alone has as many acres in rice each year as the United States has in wheat and her annual product is more than double and probably threefold our annual wheat crop, and yet the whole of the rice area produces at least one and sometimes two other crops each year."

How does the Chinaman live and make a living, and how does he conserve the fertility of the soil? These questions Professor King answers with a wealth of economic observations that make his book one that should be read by all those who wish to understand the economic side of affairs oriental.

There is much in China for us to learn. So much that Dr. King thinks that "One very appropriate and immensely helpful means for attacking this problem, and which should prove mutually helpful to citizen and state, would be for the higher educational institutions of all nations, instead of exchanging courtesies through their baseball teams, to send select bodies of their best students under competent leadership and by international agreement, both east and west, organizing therefrom investigating bodies each containing components of the eastern and western civilization and whose purpose it should be to study specifically set problems. Such a movement well conceived and directed, manned by the most capable young men, should create an international acquaintance and spread broadcast a body of important knowledge which would develop as the young men mature and contribute immensely toward world peace and world progress."

J. RUSSELL SMITH.

University of Pennsylvania.

Lavisse, Ernest. *Histoire de France depuis les Origines jusqu'à la Révolution.* Tome Neuvième I. La Règne de Louis XVI par H. Carré. Pp. 441. Paris: Hachette et Cie.

This volume of M. Lavisse's well-known history of France is the work of three historians, but by far the largest part of the book is by M. Carré.